AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original): An optical film: comprising

an optical compensation layer (2) showing refractive index anisotropy satisfying a relationship of $nx_2 \fallingdotseq ny_2 > nz_2$,

when a direction where an in-plane refractive index gives a maximum is defined as X-axis, a direction perpendicular to X-axis as Y-axis, a thickness direction as Z-axis, and when refractive indexes in each axial direction are defined as nx_2, ny_2 and nz_2, respectively,

on one side of a base material film (1) in which each of refractive index differences represented with $|nx_1 - ny_1|$, $|nx_1 - nz_1|$ and $|nz_1 - ny_1|$ has values of 0.0006 or less, respectively,.

when a direction where a refractive index in a film plane gives maximum is defined as X-axis, a direction perpendicular to X-axis as Y-axis, a thickness direction of the film as Z-axis, and when refractive indexes in each axial direction are defined as nx_1, ny_1, and nz_1 respectively.

2. (Original): The optical film according to Claim 1, wherein a thickness of the optical compensation layer (2) is 10 μm or less.

3. (Original): The optical film according to Claim 1, wherein the optical compensation layer (2) is formed of a coating of an organic material.

4. (Original): The optical film according to Claim 1, wherein the optical compensation layer (2) is a cholesteric liquid crystal layer.

5. (Original): A method for producing the optical film according to Claim 1, comprising the steps of:

coating a material to form an optical compensation layer (2) showing refractive index anisotropy satisfying a relationship of $nx_2 \fallingdotseq ny_2 > nz_2$, when a direction where an in-plane refractive index gives a maximum is defined as X-axis, a direction perpendicular to X-axis as Y-axis, a thickness direction as Z-axis, and when refractive indexes in each axial direction are defined as nx_2, ny_2 and nz_2, respectively, on one side of a base material film (1) in which each of refractive index differences represented with $|nx_1 - ny_1|$, $|nx_1 - nz_1|$, and $|nz_1 - ny_1|$ has values of 0.0006 or less, respectively, when a direction where a refractive index in a film plane gives a maximum is defined as X-axis, a direction perpendicular to X-axis as Y-axis, a thickness direction of the film as Z-axis, and when refractive indexes in each axial direction are defined as nx_1, ny_1, and nz_1 respectively; and

orienting the optical compensation layer (2).

6. (Original): The method for producing the optical film according to Claim 5, wherein a thickness of the optical compensation layer (2) is 10 μm or less.

7. (Original): The method for producing the optical film according to Claim 5, wherein the optical compensation layer (2) is formed of a coating of an organic material.

8. (Original): The method for producing the optical film according to Claim 5, wherein the optical compensation layer (2) is a cholesteric liquid crystal layer.

9. (Original): An optical film comprising an at least one layer of other optical element further laminated onto the optical film according to Claim 1.

10. (Original): The optical film according to Claim 9, wherein the other optical element is a polarizer, and the polarizer is laminated on a base material film (1) side.

11. (Original): An image display, wherein the optical film according to Claim 1 or Claim 9 is laminated thereon.

12. (Previously presented): The optical film according to claim 1, wherein the optical compensation layer (2) is formed directly on the base material film (1).

13. (Previously presented): The optical film according to claim 12, wherein the optical compensation layer (2) is coated on the base material film (1).

14. (Previously presented): The method according to claim 5, wherein the optical compensation layer (2) is formed directly on the base material film (1).

15. (Previously presented): The optical film according to claim 10, wherein the polarizer is laminated directly on the base material film (1) side.

16. (Currently amended): The optical film according to claim ~~16~~ 15, wherein the optical compensation layer (2) is coated on the base material film (1).

17. (New): The optical film according to Claim 1, wherein the base material film (1) is made of an acrylics based resin.

18. (New): The optical film according to Claim 1, wherein the base material film (1) is made of a thermoplastic saturated norbornene based resin.

19. (New): The optical film according to Claim 1, wherein the base material film (1) is made of a material including a thermoplastic resin (A) having a substituted and/or non-substituted imido group in a side chain, and a thermoplastic resin (B) having a substituted and/or non-substituted phenyl group and nitrile group in a side chain.

20. (New): The optical film according to Claim 1, wherein the values of refractive index differences represented with $|nx_1 - ny_1|$, $|nx_1 - nz_1|$, and $|nz_1 - ny_1|$ of the base material film (1) is 0.0003 or less.

21. (New): The method for producing the optical film according to Claim 5, wherein the base material film (1) is made of an acrylics based resin.

22. (New): The method for producing the optical film according to Claim 5, wherein the base material film (1) is made of a thermoplastic saturated norbornene based resin.

23. (New): The method for producing the optical film according to Claim 5, wherein the base material film (1) is made of a material including a thermoplastic resin (A) having a substituted and/or non-substituted imido group in a side chain, and a thermoplastic resin (B) having a substituted and/or non-substituted phenyl group and nitrile group in a side chain.

24. (New): The method for producing the optical film according to Claim 5, wherein the values of refractive index differences represented with $|nx_1 - ny_1|$, $|nx_1 - nz_1|$, and $|nz_1 - ny_1|$ of the base material film (1) is 0.0003 or less.